



Energy  
Information  
Administration

# Weekly Coal Production

Production for Week Ended:  
February 27, 1993



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statistical information, as well as data from selected EIA publications:

the 2nd week of the month.

approximately the 25th of the month.

days at 5:00 p.m.

Short-Term Energy Outlook, updated the last week of the month.

Winter Fuels Report, updated 60 days after the end of the quarter.

Winter Fuels Report (October through April), updated on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

### Contacts

This publication was prepared by Wayne M. Watson under the direction of Mary K. Paull, Team Leader, Coal Data Systems, and Noel C. Balthasar, Chief, Coal and Uranium Data Systems Branch. Questions on energy statistics should be directed to the National Energy Information Center (NEIC) at 202/586-8800.

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## Summary

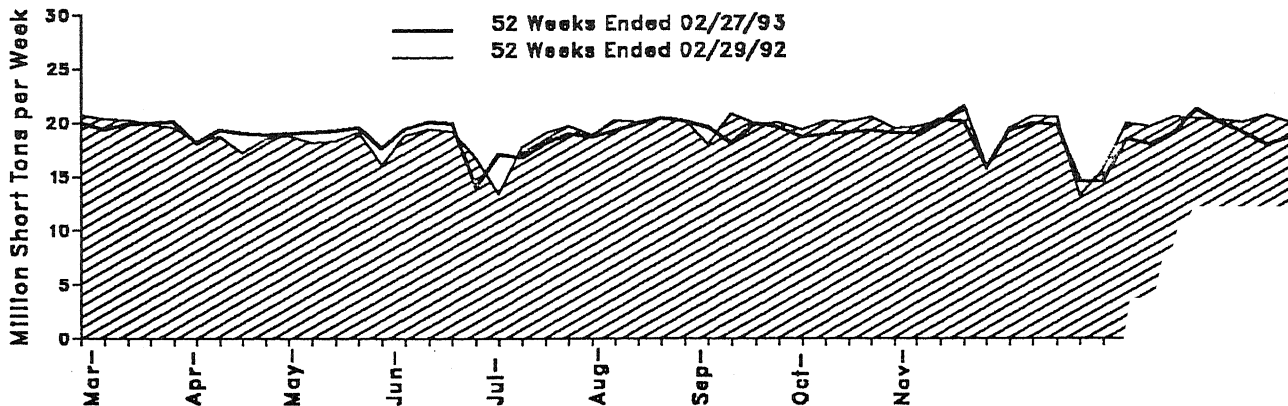
U.S. coal production in the week ended February 27, 1993, as estimated by the Energy Information Administration from railroad car loadings, totaled 19 million short tons. This was slightly higher than in the previous week, but 7 percent lower than in the comparable week in 1992.

Production east of the Mississippi River totaled 10 million short tons, and production west of the Mississippi River totaled 8 million short tons.

Coal production in February 1993 totaled 75.5 million short tons, 5 percent less than in the previous month, and 8 percent lower than the level in February 1992.

On March 1, 1993, the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) expanded their month-long coal strike of Peabody Holding Company by striking selected mines operated by Consol Energy, Inc., Zeigler Coal Holding Co., Arch Mineral Corp., Rochester & Pittsburg Coal Co., and Freeman Energy Corp. The following day, the UMWA announced that the coal strike was ended, as the union and the Bituminous Coal Operator's Association had reached an agreement on a 60-day contract extension, which will expire on May 3. The striking UMWA miners returned to work on March 4.

Figure 1. Coal Production



**Table 1. Weekly U.S. Coal Production Overview**

Production and Carloadings	Week Ended			52 Weeks Ended		
	02/27/93	02/20/93	02/29/92	02/27/93	02/29/92	Percent Change
<b>Production (Thousand Short Tons)</b>						
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite .....	18,570	17,870	19,908	975,813	988,416	-1.3
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	38	41	66	2,960	3,398	-12.9
U.S. Total .....	18,607	17,911	19,974	978,773	991,813	-1.3
Railroad Cars Loaded .....	116,141	111,966	123,534	6,285,889	6,474,730	-2.9

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 2. Weekly U.S. Coal Production by Region and State**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	Week Ended		
	02/27/93	02/20/93	02/29/92
<b>Bituminous Coal<sup>1</sup> and Lignite</b>			
East of the Mississippi .....	10,487	10,337	11,998
Alabama .....	581	551	560
Illinois .....	1,179	1,186	1,297
Indiana .....	454	462	638
Kentucky .....	2,907	2,741	3,163
Kentucky, Eastern .....	2,151	2,029	2,285
Kentucky, Western .....	756	713	878
Maryland .....	60	59	51
.....	459	486	657
.....	1,029	1,046	1,443
.....	83	84	53
.....	770	777	869
.....	2,964	2,944	3,268
Mississippi .....	8,082	7,533	7,910
.....	34	33	31
.....	214	206	254
.....	*	*	*
.....	321	357	379
.....	7	7	7
.....	-	10	6
.....	.....	67	22
.....	.....	39	52
.....	.....	664	775
.....	.....	690	431
.....	.....	503	618
.....	.....	57	34
.....	.....	906	1,013
Washington .....	387	433	517
Wyoming .....	92	88	101
.....	4,026	3,474	3,672
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total .....	18,570	17,870	19,908
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	38	41	66
U.S. Total .....	18,607	17,911	19,974

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Less than 0.5 thousand short tons.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 3. U.S. Coal Production by Region and State, February 1993**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	February 1993	January 1993	February 1992	Year to Date		
				1993	1992	Percent Change
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite						
East of the Mississippi .....	42,233	47,336	49,098	89,569	100,881	-11.2
Alabama .....	2,280	2,495	2,315	4,774	4,726	1.0
Illinois .....	4,732	4,544	5,272	9,276	10,845	-14.5
Indiana .....	1,765	2,101	2,777	3,866	5,917	-34.7
Kentucky .....	11,492	13,186	13,076	24,678	27,186	-9.2
Kentucky, Eastern .....	8,524	9,355	9,565	17,879	19,956	-10.4
Kentucky, Western .....	2,968	3,831	3,510	6,799	7,231	-6.0
Maryland .....	244	294	218	538	453	18.6
Ohio .....	1,998	2,121	2,596	4,119	5,208	-20.9
Pennsylvania Bituminous .....	4,231	4,544	5,543	8,775	10,629	-17.4
Tennessee .....	342	391	214	733	449	63.2
Virginia .....	3,164	3,603	3,527	6,767	7,394	-8.5
West Virginia .....	11,985	14,058	13,561	26,043	28,073	-7.2
West of the Mississippi .....	33,106	32,025	33,004	65,132	69,201	-5.9
Alaska .....	138	145	129	283	267	6.0
Arizona .....	870	914	1,048	1,784	2,170	-17.8
Arkansas .....	2	2	1	4	2	91.8
Colorado .....	1,450	1,478	1,537	2,929	2,904	.8
Iowa .....	29	30	28	59	59	.3
Kansas .....	39	31	26	71	50	41.4
Louisiana .....	306	301	96	606	258	134.6
Missouri .....	163	172	213	334	442	-24.3
Montana .....	2,991	2,748	3,207	5,739	6,852	-16.2
New Mexico .....	2,684	2,479	1,923	5,163	4,146	24.5
North Dakota .....	2,263	2,079	2,559	4,343	5,467	-20.6
Oklahoma .....	223	216	155	439	325	35.3
Texas .....	3,818	4,039	4,179	7,858	8,659	-9.2
Utah .....	1,723	1,626	2,164	3,349	4,083	-18.0
Washington .....	371	389	415	760	860	-11.6
Wyoming .....	16,036	15,377	15,324	31,412	32,659	-3.8
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total .....	75,340	79,361	82,102	154,701	170,081	-9.0
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	170	174	257	344	504	-31.9
U.S. Total .....	75,510	79,535	82,360	155,044	170,586	-9.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6 'Coal Distribution Report'; Form EIA-7A, 'Coal Production Report'; and State mining agency coal production reports.

# Methodology

## Weekly Data

Estimates of national weekly coal production are based on weekly carload data collected by the Association of American Railroads (AAR) from its members (Class I Railroads) and certain other railroads. EIA calculates the average number of tons per carload for each railroad's coal car fleet from information obtained from the most recent Quarterly Freight Commodity Statistics filed by Class I Railroads with the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) and from data made available by individual railroads. The average number of tons per carload is then multiplied by the number of cars loaded to obtain an estimate of weekly production shipped by AAR railroads.

Next, the weekly coal production estimate for a specific week is obtained by dividing the AAR rail tonnage for the week by a factor representing the proportion of quarterly AAR rail shipments to total quarterly coal production. Because this is done on a weekly basis, and prior to completion of current quarterly statistics, the factor is derived using ICC data on tons per carload and total carloadings and from EIA data on total production for the same quarter of the previous year. Figures for the same quarter of the year are used in order to reflect seasonal variation. In some cases, the ratio of rail tonnage to total production is adjusted to take additional, more current information into consideration, such as rail or coal strikes.

Once the U.S. weekly coal production estimate is determined, this total is split into two subtotals - the portion representing States, with little or no rail coal shipments, and the portion representing the remaining States, where a significant percentage of production is shipped by rail. The States with little or no railroad coal shipments are Alaska, Arizona, California, Georgia (when producing), Iowa, Louisiana, Missouri, Texas, and Washington. With the exception of California and Louisiana, the weekly production data for each "nonrail" State are developed by multiplying the estimate of U.S. weekly coal production by the ratio of projected production, for each State to U.S. total projected production, for the current quarter. The methodology used to project State coal production is given in the EIA publication *Model Documentation of the Short-Term Coal Analysis System* (DOE/EIA-0394). The EIA contacts the two producers in Louisiana and

the sole producer in California to develop weekly coal production estimates for those States.

Estimates for the remaining States are in aggregate equal to the U.S. weekly coal production minus the estimated production from the nonrail States. Estimates for "rail States" are based on the AAR carload data compiled by State of origin, including separate estimates for the anthracite and bituminous coal regions in Pennsylvania, eastern and western Kentucky and northern and southern West Virginia.

Each railroad is contacted at least annually for information concerning the distribution (by state of origin) of its railroad carloadings of coal. These distribution percentages are multiplied by the railroad's weekly loadings and ICC derived tonnage per carload figures to derive the weekly tonnages loaded by State and by railroad. The tonnages loaded by the various railroads are then summed by each State to estimate total production shipped by AAR rail for that State. These tonnages are divided by the most recent ratio of annual AAR rail tonnage to total annual production for each State. The resulting weekly coal production estimates for the rail States are then adjusted to ensure that each State's production figure contributes proportionately to the weekly coal production estimate previously derived in aggregate for the rail States.

## Monthly Data

Preliminary estimates of monthly coal production by State are obtained by summing weekly coal production estimates published in the *Weekly Coal Production* report. If a week extends into a new month, the production is allocated by day, and the days are added to the month in which they occur. For weeks without holidays, the allocation is Monday through Friday, 18.4 percent each day; Saturday, 8 percent; and Sunday, 0 percent. For weeks with a holiday occurring on a day other than Sunday, the allocation is Sunday and the holiday, 0 percent; and any other day, 20 percent.

Preliminary weekly and monthly production estimates are revised quarterly when quarterly production data, become available. Preliminary weekly and monthly estimates are proportionately adjusted to conform to the quarterly production figure.

## Quarterly Data

Estimates of quarterly coal production are based on data collected quarterly on Form EIA-6, with certain adjustments. The national estimate of quarterly coal production is set equal to the quarterly U.S. coal production total as reported on the Form EIA-6. Based on 1988 through 1991 data, the coal production estimation error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the sum of the weekly estimates for a quarter and the quarterly EIA-6 preliminary data) ranges from 1 percent to 4 percent for 1988, 1 percent to 2 percent for 1989, 0.3 percent to 3 percent for 1990, and 0.2 percent to 2 percent for 1991.

The quarterly production data, although published throughout the year, are considered preliminary until EIA annual production data are finalized in September of the following year. At that time quarterly production data are revised (proportionately adjusted) to conform to the final annual production figures.

## Finalizing Annual Production

Preliminary total annual U.S. coal production, as reported in the *Weekly Coal Production* report in the first week in January of the following year, is the sum

of revised monthly/quarterly estimates of production for the first 9 months (first three quarters) and a preliminary estimate of fourth quarter production derived from weekly estimates.

When production data for the fourth quarter of the year become available from Form EIA-6 in March of the following year, the preliminary fourth-quarter U.S. total production figure and corresponding State-level figures may or may not be revised, depending on the size of the difference between the estimates and fourth-quarter data. As a general practice, EIA does not revise the initial annual production estimates (determined initially in January of the following year). Weekly, monthly, and quarterly State and national production data are adjusted to conform to finalized annual production figures derived from Form EIA-7A, in September of the following year.

Based on 1988 through 1991 data, the revision error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the EIA-6 preliminary data and the EIA-7A final data) ranges from 0.02 percent to 0.08 percent for 1988, 0.09 percent to 0.14 percent for 1989, 0.01 percent to 0.05 percent for 1990, and 0.18 percent to 0.20 percent for 1991. Usually the EIA-7A coal production data are higher than the EIA-6 coal production data, due to differences in the threshold reporting requirements.